



JB Pritzker, Governor
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NEWS RELEASE

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Unemployment Rates Up, Jobs Down in January for All State Metro Areas

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	January 2021*	January 2020**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	6.3%	3.2%	3.1
Carbondale-Marion	6.9%	3.7%	3.2
Champaign-Urbana	6.3%	3.1%	3.2
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	9.1%	3.8%	5.3
Danville	8.0%	4.6%	3.4
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	6.8%	4.6%	2.2
Decatur	9.9%	4.8%	5.1
Elgin	8.2%	4.5%	3.7
Kankakee	8.7%	5.1%	3.6
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	7.1%	4.1%	3.0
Peoria	8.2%	4.7%	3.5
Rockford	11.1%	7.6%	3.5
Springfield	7.6%	3.7%	3.9
St. Louis (IL-Section)	6.6%	3.6%	3.0
Illinois Statewide	8.5%	4.0%	4.5
* Preliminary ** Revised			

SPRINGFIELD – The number of nonfarm jobs decreased over-the-year in all fourteen Illinois metropolitan areas in January, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES). The unemployment rate increased over-the-year in all metro areas. The official, BLS approved sub-state unemployment rate and nonfarm jobs series begins in 1990. Data reported prior to 1990 are not directly comparable due to updates in methodology.

“The Pritzker administration remains steadfast in providing support and services to individuals impacted by this pandemic more than a year later,” said **Deputy Governor Dan Hynes**. “As IDES works to rollout the new extensions provided in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to ensure eligible claimants have access to benefits, they will continue to provide job-matching resources to individuals as the economy works to recover statewide.”

The number of nonfarm jobs decreased in all fourteen

Illinois metropolitan areas. The metro areas which had the largest over-the-year percentage decreases in total nonfarm jobs were the Kankakee MSA (-9.8%, -4,500), the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metropolitan Division (-9.1%, -342,700) and the Elgin Metropolitan Division (-8.4%, -21,400). Three metro areas recorded their lowest total nonfarm jobs for the month of January on record (dating back to 1990).

Over-the-year, the unemployment rate increased in all 14 metropolitan areas; the metro areas with the largest unemployment rate increases were the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metropolitan Division (+5.3 points to 9.1%), the Decatur MSA (+5.1 points to 9.9%) and the Springfield MSA (+3.9 points to 7.6%). The not seasonally adjusted Illinois unemployment rate was 8.5 percent in January 2021. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.8 percent in January 2021.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) –January 2021

Metropolitan Area	January 2021*	January 2020**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	84,700	91,000	-6,300
Carbondale-Marion MSA	53,100	56,400	-3,300
Champaign-Urbana MSA	107,800	116,600	-8,800
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,413,300	3,756,000	-342,700
Danville MSA	25,900	26,700	-800
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	171,400	182,900	-11,500
Decatur MSA	45,800	49,500	-3,700
Elgin Metro Division	232,900	254,300	-21,400
Kankakee MSA	41,200	45,700	-4,500
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	387,200	412,300	-25,100
Peoria MSA	155,600	167,500	-11,900
Rockford MSA	135,900	147,300	-11,400
Springfield MSA	98,600	107,000	-8,400
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	224,200	236,500	-12,300
Illinois Statewide	5,532,000	6,032,500	-500,500
*Preliminary **Revised			

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**Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates
(percent) for Local Counties and Areas**

Labor Market Area	Jan 2021	Jan 2020	Over the Year Change
Champaign-Urbana MSA			
Champaign County	6.4 %	3.0 %	3.4
Ford County	6.4 %	4.2 %	2.2
Piatt County	5.6 %	3.2 %	2.4
Danville MSA			
Vermilion	8.0 %	4.6 %	3.4
Cities			
Champaign City	6.5 %	2.9 %	3.6
Urbana City	5.9 %	3.0 %	2.9
Danville City	9.4 %	4.6 %	4.8
Counties			
Clark County	6.9 %	4.4 %	2.5
Coles County	6.6 %	3.3 %	3.3
Cook County	9.8 %	3.8 %	6.0
De Witt County	7.0 %	3.9 %	3.1
Douglas County	4.8 %	3.0 %	1.8
Edgar County	5.0 %	3.7 %	1.3
Iroquois County	6.7 %	4.8 %	1.9
McLean County	6.3 %	3.1 %	3.2
Macon County	9.9 %	4.8 %	5.1
Moultrie County	5.0 %	2.9 %	2.1
Sangamon County	7.7 %	3.7 %	4.0
Shelby County	5.7 %	3.9 %	1.8
Other Areas			
LWIA 17	6.3 %	3.3 %	3.0
LWIA 18	8.0 %	4.6 %	3.4
East Central EDR	6.6 %	3.5 %	3.1

East Central Illinois Highlights

Champaign-Urbana MSA

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 6.3 percent in January 2021 from 3.1 percent in January 2020. The last time the January rate was equal to or higher was in 2014 when it was 6.9 percent.

Nonfarm employment decreased by -8,800 compared to last January.

Government (-5,400), Leisure-Hospitality (-2,100), Retail Trade (-1,000), and Manufacturing (-400) sectors recorded the largest employment declines compared to one year ago. The Professional-Business Services (+200), Construction (+100), Transportation-Warehousing-Utilities (+100), and Educational-Health Services (+100) sectors reported payroll gains.

Danville MSA

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 8.0 percent in January 2021 from 4.6 percent in January 2020. The last time the January rate was equal to or higher was in 2016 when it was 8.2 percent.

Nonfarm employment decreased by -800 compared to last January.

The Government (-300), Educational-Health Services (-200), and Manufacturing (-200) sectors recorded the largest employment declines compared to one year ago. The Transportation-Warehousing-Utilities (+100) and Professional-Business Services (+100) sectors reported payroll gains.

Note: Monthly 2020 unemployment rates and total nonfarm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2021, as required by the U.S. BLS. Comments and tables distributed for prior metro area news releases should be discarded as any records or historical analysis previously cited may no longer be valid. The official monthly unemployment rate series for metro areas, counties and most cities begins in 1990. The official monthly nonfarm jobs series for metro areas begins in 1990 and for non-metropolitan counties it begins in 1999.

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